

UP TO DATE
AND NEWSY.

BEST SPORTING PAGE IN NEW YORK.

EDITED BY
ROBERT EDGREN.

PAPKE, THE PERFECT PHYSICAL SPECIMEN OF FIGHTING MAN OF TO-DAY

Illinois Thunderbolt Has Not a Weak Spot in His Make Up, and for a Youngster His Development Is Remarkable.



WILLIE PAPKE is the Apollo of the fighters. Physically he is a model. He is built for the fighting game from his toes to the top of his head. There isn't a weak spot in his anatomy or a line of his make-up that the most critical of sculptors would care to have changed. For a twenty-one-year-old lad his development is remarkable.

Papke weighs to-day just a hundred and fifty-six pounds stripped. He isn't "fine," for he didn't have to train down to meet Stanton in Boston a few days ago.

Papke stands five feet eight and three-quarter inches. His reach is seventy-one inches. This is only an inch less than the reach of Jim Corbett, former heavy-weight champion, who is just five inches taller than the new king of the middle-weights.

The "Illinois Thunderbolt" has arms and hands that are perfectly adapted to the fighting game. He has great forearms, and fists as big and strong as John L. Sullivan's. Much of his truly remarkable hitting power comes from these fists.

And he can hit harder than any other middle-weight in the world. He usually wins his fights with a clean knockout in the first, second or third round.

ASKED Papke how he happened to become a fighter, he said: "I fought my first main event a year ago last November. I knew Jim Barry a couple of years ago. That was before he ever thought of fighting men like Langford. He was boxing and training in my town and he liked to ride around with me and help me unload coal. I began boxing with him a little and he gave me some training. I used to box and then give him a rub down. One day another friend of mine had to draw out of a match down in Peru, Ill. He asked me if I'd like to go down there and fight for him. I went just for fun, and knocked my man out in thirty seconds with only a couple of punches. I thought that was pretty easy, and I changed my profession. It's come pretty easy ever since."

Papke was born in Illinois, of German parents. They say German scrapmen don't like the gas, he told me, "but I seem to like it. The harder a fight I get the more fun it is."

Papke's description of the blow he has made famous is interesting. "I noticed a lot of fights using a 'loop' punch," he says, "but it was nothing more than a slap. I thought there ought to be some way of making it a dangerous punch, so I went to work and studied it out. I began to knock fighters down with it. It is a good one for a knockout. I twist around and get a free uppercut with my right and at the same time I hit the other fellow's head over into the punch with my left. That's my best blow. I beat Kelly to a pulp with it. He couldn't get away from it to save his life."

Papke's "loop-the-loop" punch is illustrated on this page. The man he is practicing it on is Mr. Jones, his manager.

Willie Papke is a larger edition of Terry McGovern at his best. He is just as great a fighter among the middle-weights as Terry was years ago among the little men. He fights like a fury, saving his teeth in a grin of actual pleasure. He likes to fight. No doubt of that. His sturdy head hardly feels the effect of the hardest blow.

THE following graphic description of Papke's action in the recent Stanton fight is taken from a personal letter written by a friend to a friend in New York, and shows how the "Thunderbolt" impresses the man in the ringed seat.

"Pap showed up smiling, as usual. Stanton was in good condition evidently, and from the first going tried to force the fighting, rushing Pap all over the lot and landing repeatedly his right with all the power of his punch on Pap's jaw. Pap only smiled, and fought around with his gloves, not trying to hurt Stanton, evidently having agreed to give the crowd some sort of a run for his money."

"Just at the close of the third round Pap landed a well-meant jab on Stanton's jaw, his whole face seemed to crumple in, and the gang raved. Stanton falling into his chair practically unconscious."

"The real business on Papke's part started in the fourth. At the going he set sail in his old-fashioned way, and although Stanton fought with desperation, he was covered with blood, blowing great gobs of blood, blowing great gobs of blood, blowing great gobs of blood."

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BOWLERS!
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over the ring, and Pap still smiling, landing hard, as only he can do it, at close range. Stanton went down in a heap and lay face down on his stomach, he thought he had quit, but he got up at ten. A second had thrown the sponge, but it sailed away over the ring landing in the audience, and the referee didn't see it.

When Stanton got up he sailed into Pap like a wild man on his nerve and with the last desperate ounce that nature could summon up, his face swarmed with blood, so that his own brother wouldn't have recognized his features, and Pap, still with that pleasant smile and unmarked, went in to finish his man in earnest. In a mix-up a short job, the chin but Stanton in a helpless heap. He was oppressively beaten and soaked with blood, and was about to stagger to his feet at the count of nine when his second threw the towel into the ring and saved him from the final blow that would probably have shattered his head like a pumpkin hit with a ball bat. Stanton was cowed but absolutely outclassed. Papke unmarked and still smiling pleasantly. Stanton probably had ten pounds advantage in weight.

PAPKE is going back to Illinois.

He intended taking on a match here, but decided not to risk waiting time by waiting for a bout that might be interfered with by the authorities. In the West Mr. Papke can keep hold out. He intends now to fight Hugo Kelly again and settle the question of superiority for all time.

Writes a Defense of Charge That He Played "Outlaw Ball."

BY TOZEMAN BULGER.

HAL CHASE at last comes out of the wilderness and explains why he is not an outlaw, and, what is of a little more importance, why he will be back on the job at first base for New York in the spring.

"I have never been an outlaw," says Chase, "and I have not replied to the various charges against me because I didn't think it worth while."

"You know they have got to have something to rave about in the winter," very earnestly observes the Highlander. "I first became a man, and I thought I would let them go just as far as they liked."

"The truth of the matter is," says Chase, "that I did not play outlaw ball. While at home in San Jose I had a chance to make a big spending money by appearing in exhibition games. These games were not regular league games, and did not count in the official standing. As soon as I found out that the California League was not an outlaw organization I quit. I am not an outlaw, and have been."

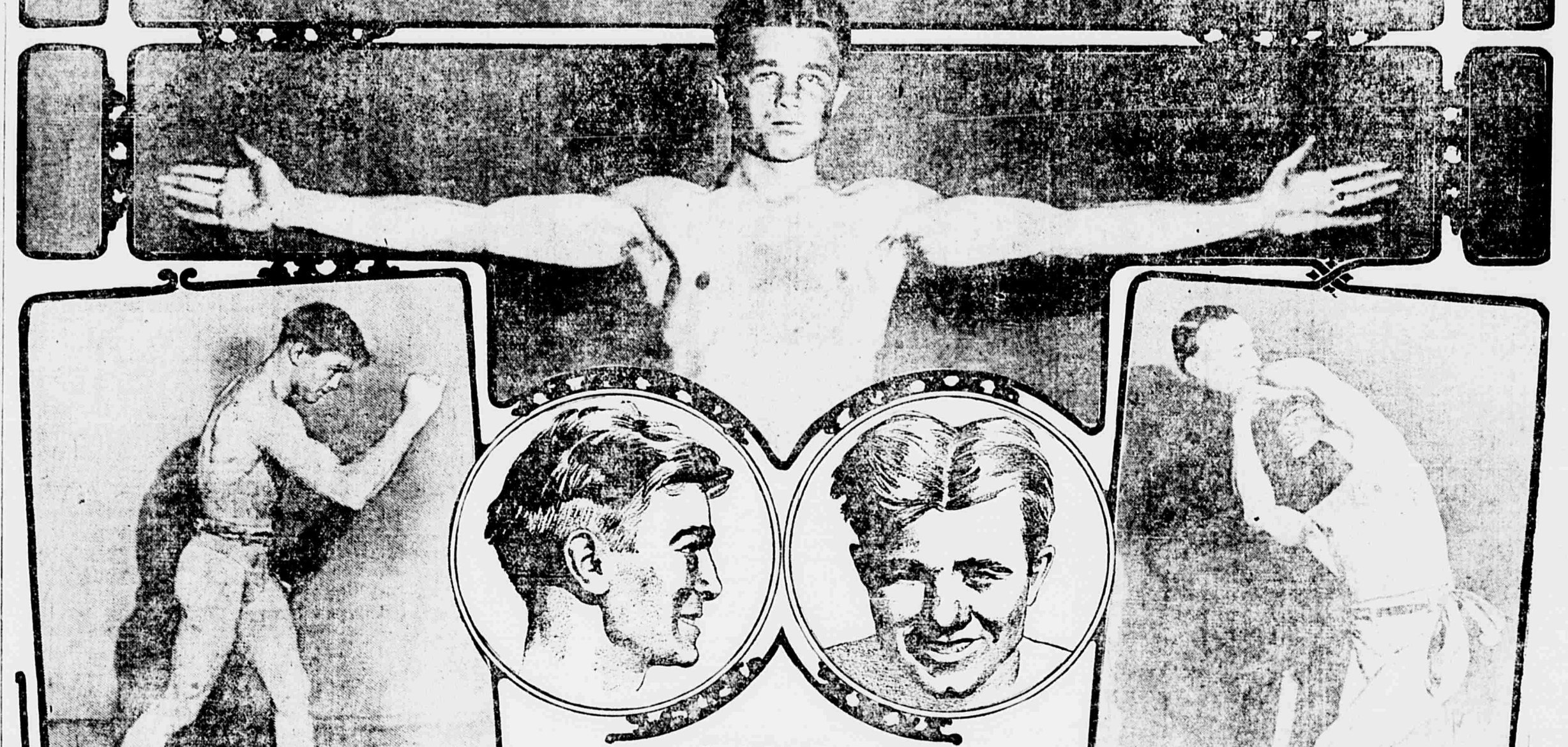
Chase is no fool. In the next mail Chase sent a letter to Tommy. Mike Martin asking that Mike make arrangements for the rental of a flat in which he could live while playing in New York in the spring. Chase is no fool, and he has very wisely kept his own counsel until it came time to show his hand. The National Commission was advised all the time as to his doings in California, and no charge of outlaw ball playing will be made against him. Incidentally

BRIDGEPORT TEAM WON.
BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Jan. 24.—Bridgeport outplayed Providence at all points last night in a game that was a wonder in the history of the city. The game was played at the Bridgeport Athletic Club. The home team, the Bridgeport team, won by a score of 7-4. Providence was defeated by a score of 4-2. The game was played at the Bridgeport Athletic Club.

Record Crowd Sees Polo.
WATERBURY, Conn., Jan. 24.—Before a crowd of 2,000 people, the largest ever gathered in the city, a polo match was played last night at the Waterbury Athletic Club. The game was played at the Waterbury Athletic Club. The home team, the Waterbury team, won by a score of 7-4. Providence was defeated by a score of 4-2. The game was played at the Waterbury Athletic Club.

POLO A. A. STAG TO-NIGHT.

The weekly star of the New Polo A. A. will come off to-night in its clubhouse, One Hundred and Twenty-third street, and Park avenue. Five boys will be decided between good boxers. In the main bout Sammy Keller, the English bantam, will meet Babe Cullen, the clever local boxer, for six rounds.



GLEASON GETS BEST OF FIGHT PERMITS

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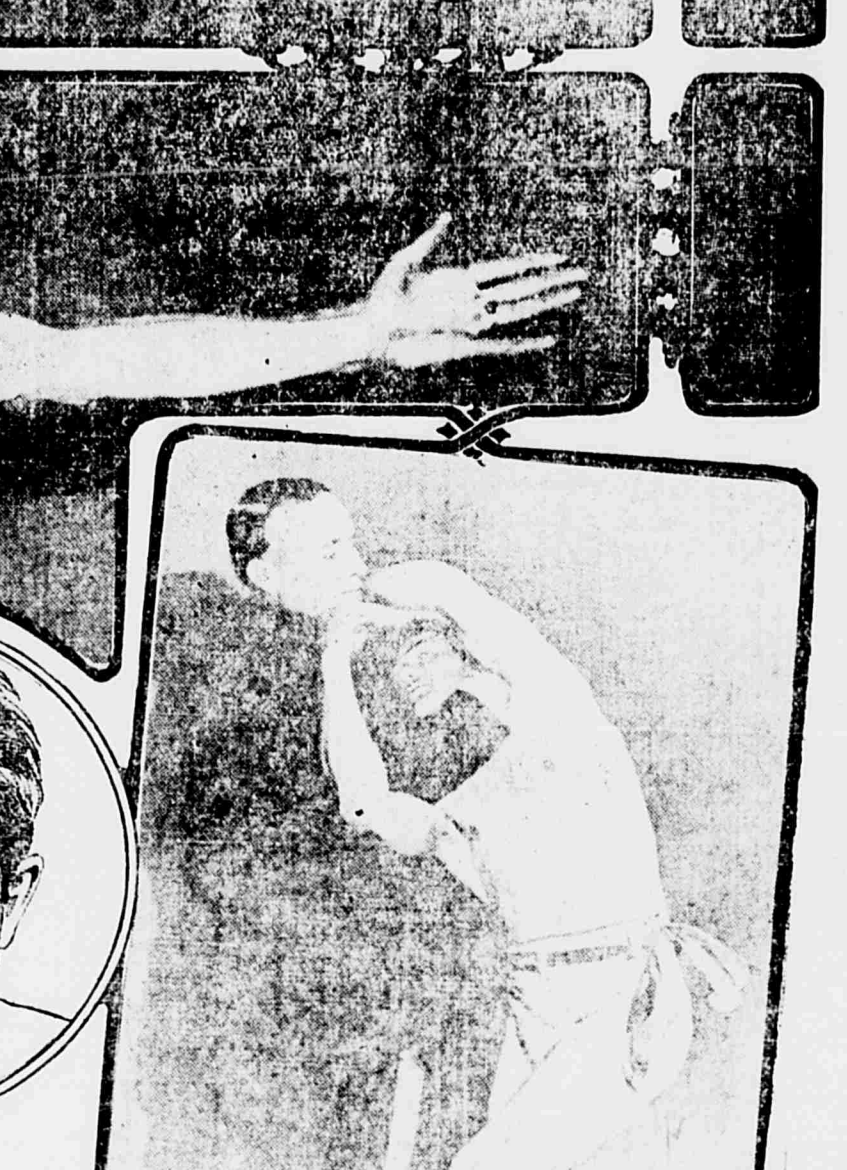
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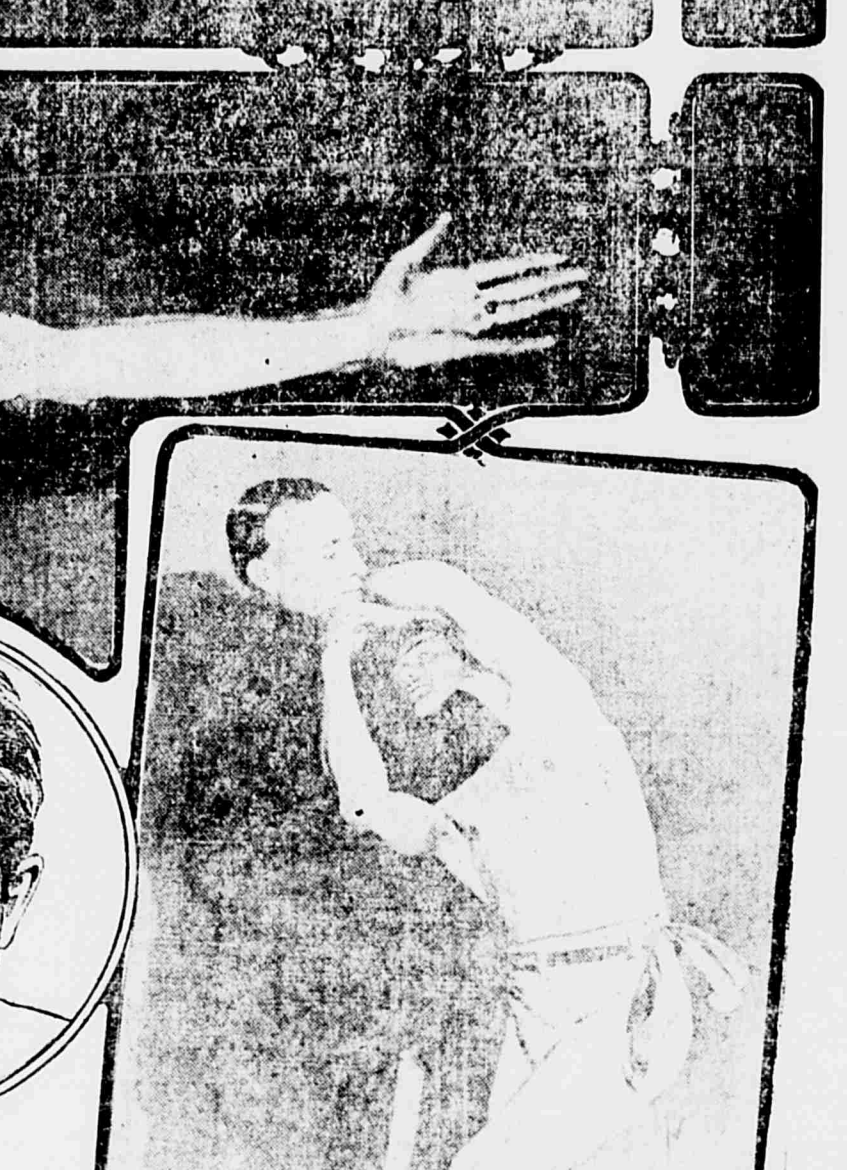
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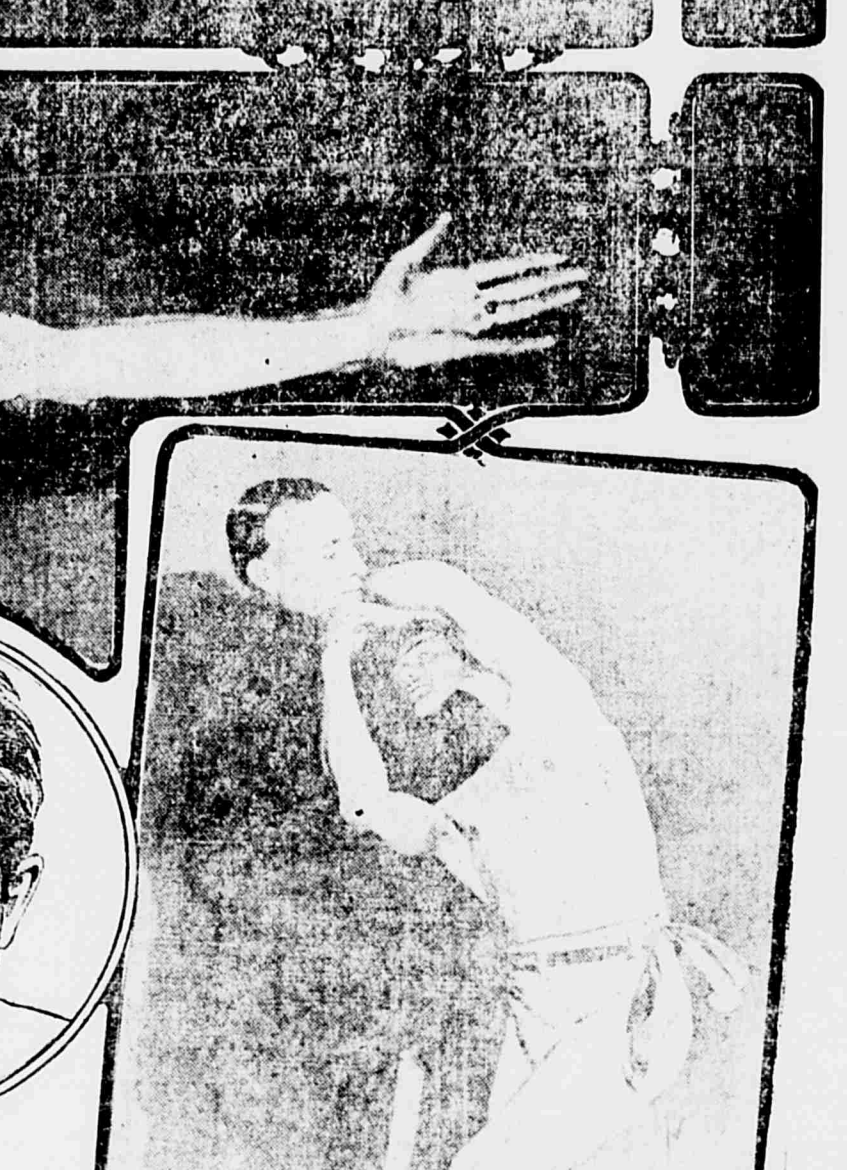
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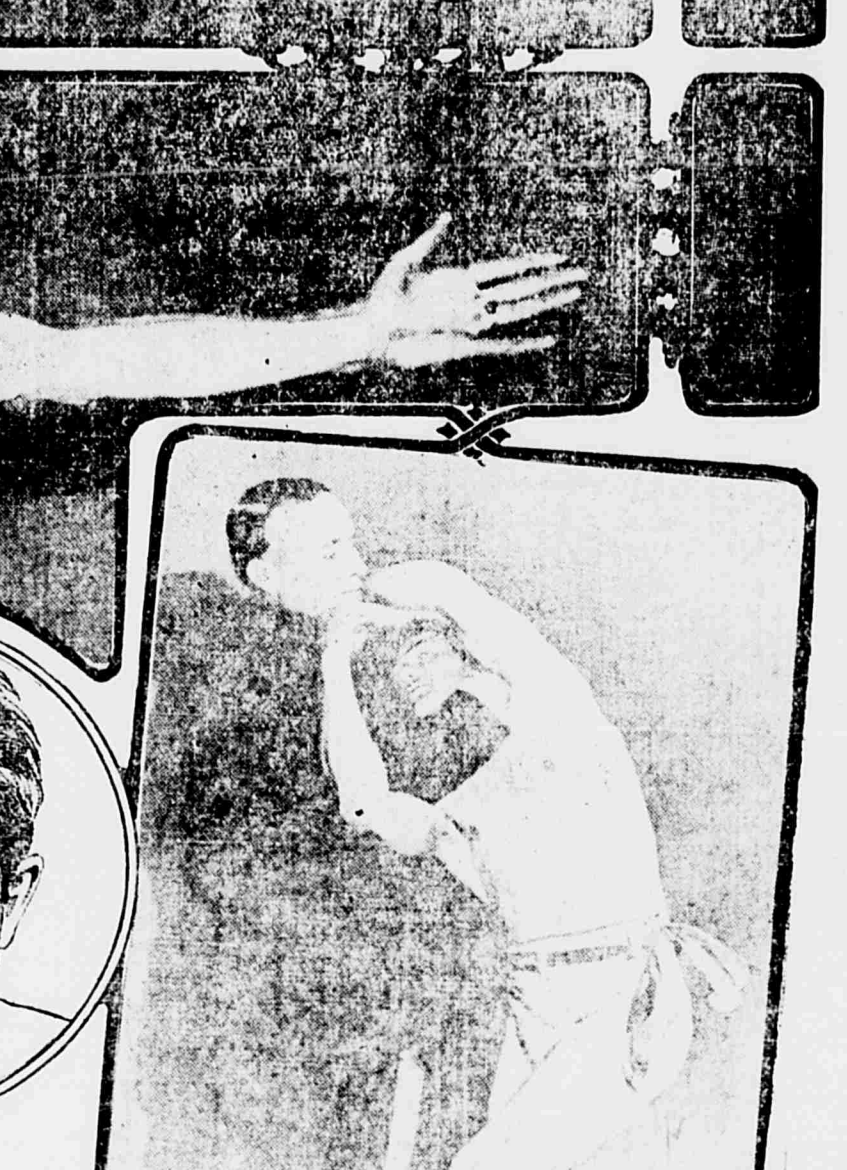
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Wanderers 0 W. 0 L. 0 P.C. 0



GLEASON GETS BEST OF FIGHT PERMITS